AMENDMENTS

__In the Claims__

The following is a marked-up version of the claims with the language that is underlined ("___") being added and the language that contains strikethrough ("—") being deleted:

1. – 14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Currently Amended) A method for accessing messages, the method comprising the steps of:

~~receiving~~ receiving, at a digital voicemail system, a request from an Internet user, to access a voicemail message in a legacy voicemail system, the legacy voicemail system being configured to receive and store analog messages, the request being received over the Internet;

converting the request to a command of the legacy voicemail system;

retrieving the voicemail message from the legacy voicemail system, using the command;

converting the voicemail message to a voice-over-Internet-protocol (VoIP) message; and

transmitting the VoIP message to the Internet user over the Internet.

16. – 20.   (Canceled)

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21. (Currently Amended) A system for accessing messages sent from a caller for a callee, the system comprising:

an analog voicemail system configured to store a received analog voicemail message;

a digital voicemail system configured to ~~store~~ create a temporary digital mailbox for storing a received digital voicemail message, the digital voicemail system including means for converting the received digital voicemail message into an analog voicemail message, wherein the converted analog message is configured for storage at the analog voicemail system; and

a messaging server coupled to the standard telephone system, the messaging server further being coupled to the analog voicemail system, the messaging server further being coupled to the digital voicemail system, the messaging server comprising:

means for extracting the received analog voicemail message from the analog voicemail system;

means for digitizing the extracted analog voicemail message; and

means for sending the digitized voicemail message to the digital voicemail system.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the digital voicemail system is further configured to send a query regarding whether the callee is a subscriber of the analog voicemail system.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the digital voicemail system is further configured to, in response to an indication that the callee is a subscriber of the analog voicemail system, convey the converted analog message to the analog voicemail system.

24.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the digital voicemail system is further configured to receive a query for new digital voice messages.

25.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the query is received via the Internet.

26.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the system is coupled to an Internet call waiting system.

27.   (Currently Amended) A digital voicemail system for receiving voicemail from a caller for a callee, the system comprising:

logic configured to receive a digital voicemail from a caller, the digital voicemail being configured for delivery to a callee;

logic configured to to, in response to receiving the digital voicemail, send a query for determining whether the callee is a subscriber of an analog voicemail system;

logic configured to receive an indication as to whether the callee is a subscriber of an analog voicemail system;

logic configured to, in response to receiving an indication that the callee is a subscriber of an analog voicemail system, convert a received digital voicemail message into an analog voicemail message; and

logic configured to convey the converted analog voicemail message to the analog voicemail system.

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28.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27, further comprising logic configured to store the received digital message.

29.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27, further comprising logic configured to receive a converted digital message from the analog voicemail system.

30.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27, further comprising logic configured to delete the received digital message.

31.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27, further comprising logic configured to receive a query for new messages.

32.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27, wherein the digital voicemail system is an Internet-based system.

33.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27, wherein the digital voicemail system includes an instant messaging system.

34.   (Currently Amended) A method at a digital voicemail system for receiving

voicemail from a caller for a callee, the method comprising:

receiving a digital voicemail from a caller, the digital voicemail being configured for

delivery to a callee;

in response to receiving the digital voicemail, sending a query for determining whether

the callee is a subscriber of an analog voicemail system;

receiving an indication as to whether the callee is a subscriber of an analog voicemail

system;

in response to receiving an indication that the callee is s subscriber of an analog voicemail

system, converting a received digital voicemail message into an analog voicemail message; and

conveying the converted analog voicemail message to the analog voicemail system.

35.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising storing the

received digital message.

36.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising receiving a

converted digital message from the analog voicemail system.

37.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising deleting the

received digital message.

38.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising receiving a

query for new messages.

39.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the digital voicemail

system is an Internet-based system.